

THE
LIVING WORDS
OF A ¹²
DYING CHILD.

BEING A
TRUE RELATION
Of some part of the Words that came
forth, and were spoken by
JOSEPH BRIGGINS
~~on his Death-bed.~~

Born on the 26th. day of the 4th. Month
called June 1675. Aged 12 Years,
Five Months, and 15 Dayes.

Out of the Mouth of Babes and Sucklings
hast thou ordained strength. Psal. 8. 2.

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EXCELSIOR

A. G. O.

CHILOE ISLANDS

1860

COLLECTED BY J. C. GREENE
OF NEW YORK CITY

IN THE MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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TO THE
R E A D E R S,
WHETHER
Children or others.

THIS Youth was a very dutiful Child to his Parents, and patient, and ready to receive Instruction; never was known to resist his Father or Mothers Advice and Council, but always ready to obey their Commands, and minded good things, being very bashful, and ready to put himself forwards to do any business to please his Parents or Relations; never

To the Readers.

sullen nor dogged; and what he did it was with all his might faithfully in obedience to a meek and quiet Spirit to the last Minute: In the time of his Health for Three Years last past, he used to go to hear at the Meetings of the People called Quakers, and no where else, and was by rude Boys scoff'd at, and called a Quaker. He was a very manly, meek and sober Child, not given to quarrel with any. What we have here related, that he spoke of the great Love of the Lord, both to his own Soul, and to his People, is far short of what he declared. His departure hence was on the Third day of the Fifth Month 1675. at 7 in the Morning, the 13 day of his Sickness; in great stillness and patience he entred into Everlasting Life.

And

To the Readers.

*And we who were Eye and Ear
Witnesses of this following Relation,
do testifie, that his words were so
in Verse, and in such a great power
they were expressed, indeed greater
than we can declare.*

*We whose names are subscribed,
are Witnesses for the Lord in this
matter, besides several others then
present.*

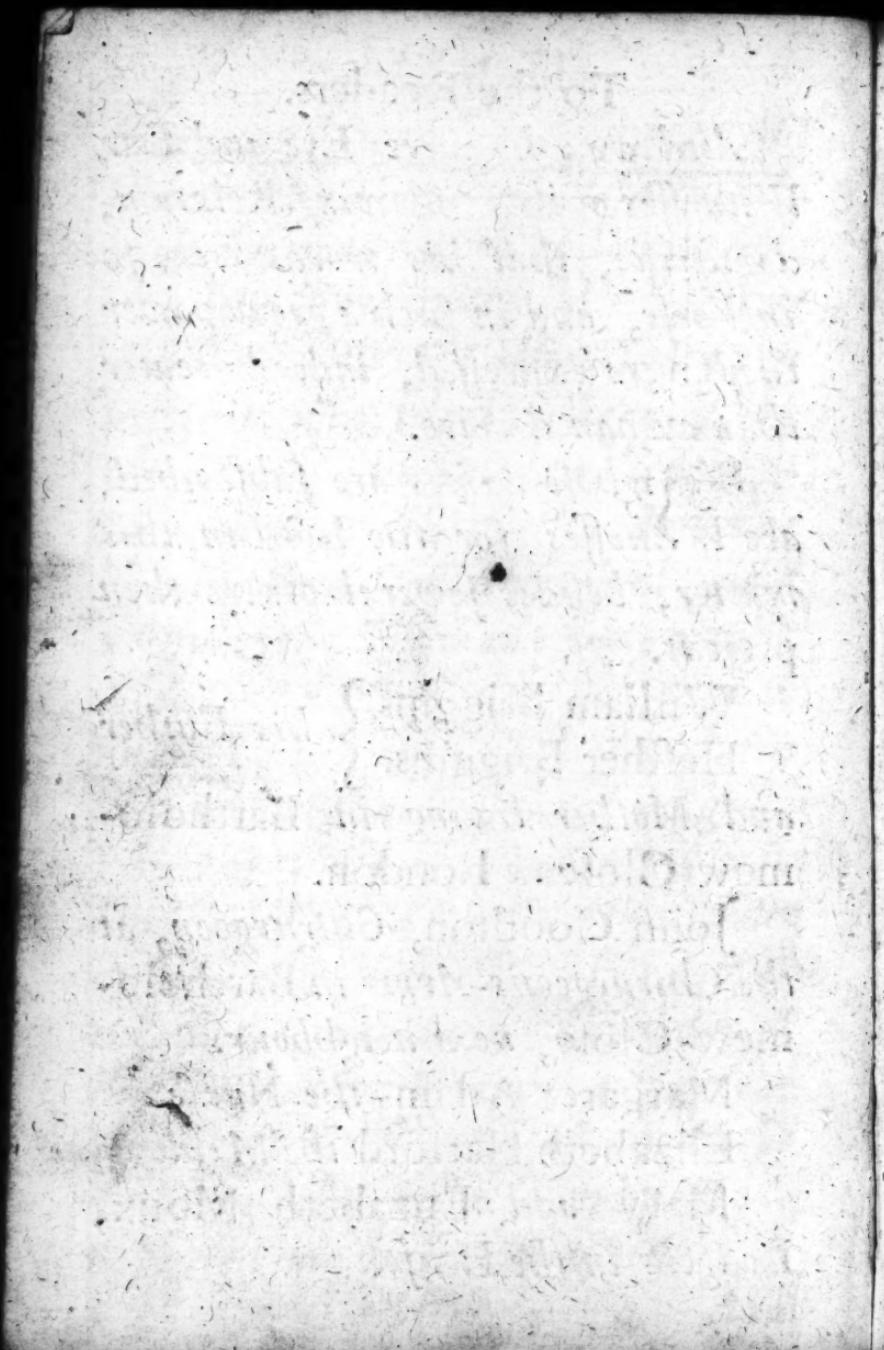
*William Briggins, } his Father
Hester Briggins. } and Mother living in Bartholo-
mew-Close in London.*

*John Goodson, Chirurgeon, at
the Chirurgeons-Arms in Bartholo-
mew-Close, next neighbour.*

Margaret Adams the Nurse.

Elizabeth Harford the Maid.

*Mary and Elizabeth Moux,
Lodgers in the House.*



The Wonderful Sayings spoken by Joseph Brig- gins, worthy to be min- ded.

ON the 26. day of the Fourth Month, about
the Seventh hour in the Evening, being
(as we thought) very near death, after he had
layen silent for about an hour, he began to ap-
pear full of exceeding great joy and pleasant-
ness, and his mouth was opened, and he said,
I shall praise the Lord, for he is only to be
praised; So he went on in Heavenly words in
Prayer, to the admiration of the Nurse and
Maid that heard him; of all which they only
could remember that he said in admiration.

Oh! I have never heard of any other
God but thee, O my Holy One.

And the Nurse offering him some Cordial
to drink,

Nay said he , I shall not eat nor drink until I have seen my Heavenly Fathers Face in Glory .

And more and more he was changed and filled with exceeding great joy and pleasantness , and said ,

I have heard of thee , but now I see thee in Glory .

And many Heavenly sayings and expressions came from him , the Maid and Nurse did think he had been neer going away : He hearing them speak so , He earnestly said , Pray call up my Father and Mother , for I have something to say to them concerning what I have seen of my Heavenly Fathers Glory .

So he went on uttering many Heavenly Sayings and Exhortations in sound judgement ; his Mother was called up , and seeing him so greatly changed in so short a time , she wept , and ran down stairs and called his Father , and several people that was there at that time ; and when he hears them come up , he joyfully called out ,

Father , Father , Oh Father ; and held out his hand , and shook his Father by the hand , and said ,

Oh

Oh ! pure and glorious is my Saviour which hath appeared to me , and hath taken me into his Kingdom : Oh ! mine eye hath seen his glory .

His words were expressed in so great wisdom and power that we were all amazed at them being also in Meetre for the space of about one hour and a half praising God , and admiring him , and his glorious power , and Holy Order of glorified Saints and Holy Angels , and of the Glorious day of God revealed said he . Some of which many words he gave forth to us are as followeth , viz .

O most Glorious God , great and wonderful things are brought to pass by thy own pure holy power , by which thou hast revealed thy Son unto us thy Ministers , O my King , O let all people fear and stand in awe of thy power , by which thou hast gathered many out of their sinful wajes into pure obedience to thee : Oh , thou hast given us a living knowledge of thee , O pure , glorious , holy God , let thy life reach unto all my dear Friends ; and keep them that know thee firm and steadfast

Last upon thy Holy Foundation Christ Jesus my King , whose appearance is very glorious at this day , and of his Government no end is to be ; but thousands of thousands , millions of thousands shall come to see , and be made wих me partakers of his glorious bright - shining-day.

Of which many words more he spake which cannot be remembred.

Again he said, O Glory, Glory, Everlasting praises be given to thee by me , and all we that know thee ; O I have much to say for thee.

He was asked if he knew what he had said ; his answer was, I have Preached the Gospel to You.

His Father desired at present to hearken and mind what he said, and spake some of his words to them but he was grieved, and said:

O be silent all flesh, and stand by , for we that have seen thy pure mighty Glory, can preach this Gospel which is thy power, and the day comes on apace, that all that undertakes to speak of thee, and obeys not thy power , by this power they shall be

be brought to silence ; there are many waies and Baptisms in the World ; but oh thou Pure, Holy, Holy one ; we thy Ministers have known thy Spiritual baptism into Christ Jesus my Lord , by which the living water have we known and felt. Oh it is indeed exceeding pure , by which we have been washed from all our sins. Oh my King thou wast slain, and by the Virtue of thy pure Blood, we have this gain, Oh that all may wait continually upon thee , that they may be kept from all the deceivable waies of this world ; Oh mind and serve the Lord in your day for his Holy Truth revealed in You is the way in which You must Wait and Obey. Oh ! Glorious are the beams of his Sun that hath shined into my Heart , in which I have seen the glory of his day , although in the Grave shortly this Body is to lie. But oh Glory, Glory, and Hallelujah's my Soul doth sing to thee Oh my King for the Redemption of my Soul, that shall never dye; but in praises pure for ever shall endure ; a living taste thou hast given to me most sure; O my Father and Mother ; all my Friends which

which to me are dear ; Yet a Glory I have
seen most bright, in which I shortly must
appear ; He is my King and Leader which
is my Saviour most dear ; O exceeding
glorious is this Holy place where Saints
and Angels in bright-shining Glory behold
his pure face ; Oh all obey his pure trurh
in Your Day,

That You may feel the virtue of his
Grace,

For mortal man is but to run his Race.

And woe to them that shall not Obey
his Grace, for such do not feel his Virtue,
nor ever shall see his Face.

*Some were whispering together towards the
further end of the room, at which he seemed
to be grieved, and said these words, pointing
with his finger.*

Here is a spirit speaks in this Room
that is not of God.

*He was so much spent he could hardly
speak, and bid the people that stood by stand
further that he might have a little aire ; he
was offered something to drink ; he said he
would*

would not receive it; a little after he was pres-
sed again to receive it.

No said he , if I should I should tell a
lie , and gave a signe to put it away , and
said,

Oh the Sons of God have better refresh-
ment then a cup of cold water. And so
lay silent a while , but again spake as fol-
loweth : The Lord hath taken me into
his Kingdom , he hath discovered the fresh
Springs of his Love to my Soul : All that
know the Lord be obedient to his power ,
and he will discover himself more to you ,
and you shall know more , thousands , thou-
sands millions will the Lord call : O that
my kindred after the flesh might come to
know the Lord .

Again after some time of silence he
said ,

Oh that my Fellows , my Companions
might know the Lord , they shall know
the Lord , they shall follow me : Here be
some stand by me that do not know the
Lord .

Which he repeated again and again , and
then said ,

What

What wait you to hear? what do you all stand here to hear?

His Father answered him, they stand to hear what the Lord will speak by thee.

He said no; all that are here do not wait to hear the Lord speak; you do not all know the Lord, you think you know him; but you know him but in the notion, but when you come to die, you shall know that you did not know the Lord.

When some spake of his being light-headed, and as though he should speak he knew not what, he seemed grieved, and earnestly said,

I had rather be torn alive by Doggs, than that an impure or unholy Word should come out of my mouth.

Some that knew him very well, wondered to hear him speak as he did, and said they had never heard such words come from him before; he said.

The Lord hath fully made that known to my Soul which I had some feeling of before.

On the next Day about the Seventh Hour in the morning he was very earnest in Prayer softly to himself; but some Words were heard,
viz. O

O let all that know not thy pure truth
come and receive it saith my Soul.

And sung of the Olive-tree , and the
Fruit thereof which he had fed on, and of
his refreshment he had thereby.

*He was asked what he meant by the Olive-
Tree ? he said the Tree of Life.*

*And many more Heavenly Sayings he utte-
red before he Departed to his Everlasting
Rest.*

THE END.